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# The emergence of a regional concept 1910-1976

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## The Emergence of a Regional Concept

1910 - 1976

- 1910     *The "Greater San Francisco" Movement is proposed for the the San Francisco Peninsula based on the New York borough system.*
- 1920     *The Commonwealth Club supports the Regional Plan Association to develop a land use and transportation plan for six counties.*
- 1923     *The East Bay Municipal Utility District is formed.*
- 1928     *The Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District is formed.*
- 1934     *The East Bay Regional Park District is formed.*
- 1949     *The Water Pollution Control Board is established by the legislature.*
- 1955     *The Bay Area Air Pollution Control District is established by the legislature.*
- 1957     *The San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District is created by the legislature.*
- 1958     *The Metropolitan Municipal Bill of Rights, as adopted by the League of California Cities, stresses home rule, cooperation, and Metropolitan Councils to be established under the Joint Exercise of Powers Law.*
- 1959     *Legislation is introduced to establish a Golden Gate Authority to operate bridges, airports and harbor facilities.*
- Governor Brown appoints a Commission on Metropolitan Area Problems.*
- 120 delegates from 56 cities meet October 2 to discuss the possible formation of a Bay Area Metropolitan Council. Mayor Claude Hutchison (Berkeley), Chairman, introduces speakers on the subjects of the League's position on metropolitan problems, the experience of other metropolitan councils, possible purposes and functions of a council, and possible composition of a council. The delegates authorize Mayor Hutchison to appoint a study committee of Bay Area mayors to propose the composition, method of organization and bylaws for the formation of a Bay Area Metropolitan Council.*
- 1960     *The Commission on Metropolitan Area Problems submits a report recommending legislation to authorize creation in metropolitan areas of a single multi-purpose regional district governed by a council made up of locally elected officials.*

135 delegates representing nine counties and 52 cities meet May 5 to consider the work of the Supervisors' and Mayors' Committee which drew up bylaws for the proposed Association of Bay Area Governments. The delegates overwhelmingly approve the Bylaws and recommend that each Board of Supervisors and City Council in the nine Bay Area Counties authorize execution of the Joint Powers Agreement and become members of ABAG.

Cities and counties take official steps to become members of ABAG. Supervisors' and Mayors' Committee continues meeting to establish qualifications for an Executive Director and oversee membership campaign.

1961 Informal General Assembly is held January 12. San Francisco, San Mateo and Sonoma Counties announce their intended membership.

The first official General Assembly is held February 24 with a charter membership of six counties and 54 cities. Mayor Claude Hutchison (Berkeley) is elected President and Supervisor Wesley Hubbard (Santa Clara County) is elected Vice President. A budget for 1960-61 of \$17,000 and for 1961-62 of \$27,500 is approved.

Mr. Wilbur Smith is appointed Executive Director and the first ABAG Committees are set up.

The September General Assembly votes that ABAG should study the following topics: uniform building codes, Bay Area tidelands development, Bay Area governmental data center, water pollution - including sewage and plant locations, solid waste sites, and an inventory of open space.

1962 Supervisor Ralph Mehrkens (Santa Clara County) is elected President and Mayor John McInnis (San Rafael) is elected Vice President by the General Assembly on February 28. A Refuse Disposal Study is recommended by the Water Pollution Committee. The General Assembly votes to support the \$150 million State Park Bond Act.

An inventory of regional parks and open space is completed by the Technical Advisory Group of the Regional Recreation Committee.

The Uniform Standards Committee drafts a model shelter ordinance.

ABAG supports the Bay Area Transportation Coordination Committee in its request that the state determine the need for a comprehensive transportation study for the Bay Area. The Executive Committee considers the question of uniform rates on Bay Area toll bridges.

The General Assembly votes on October 10 to assume the responsibility for regional planning for the Bay Area.



The Subcommittee on Multi-Purpose Districts studies local special districts that provide municipal-type services in unincorporated areas.

*Voters approve the \$792 million Bay Area Rapid Transit District Bond issue for Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties.*

1963 *The Bay Area Transportation Study is established by the legislature.*

ABAG prepares an application for Federal urban planning assistance funds to finance the regional planning program which has a two-year budget of \$257,000 (local funds \$86,000 and Federal funds \$171,000).

ABAG membership is 64 cities and 7 counties.

ABAG reviews open space land grants for the Bay Area and handles Intergovernmental Agreements with cities and counties to make the Bay Area eligible for 30% Federal grants to preserve open space.

Mayor John McInnis (San Rafael) serves as ABAG's President and Supervisor Kent Pursel (Alameda County) is Vice President.

1964 ABAG proposes a voluntary moratorium on filling of San Francisco Bay and prepares a model ordinance and Joint Powers Agreement for Bayshore cities and counties to sign.

Supervisor Kent Pursel (Alameda County) is elected President and Mayor Newell Case (Walnut Creek) is Vice President. The General Assembly adopts a General Fund Budget of \$53,000 for 1964-65.

Warren Schmid becomes ABAG's Executive Director and James Hickey is appointed as its Planning Director.

72 cities and 8 counties belong to ABAG.

ABAG takes a strong position opposing the construction of the San Luis Interceptor Drain, but supports the continued funding of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Bay Model.

The Executive Committee includes "existing and future housing needs" as part of the regional planning program.

ABAG applies for Federal funds for an economic activity model of the Bay Area to be developed by the Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics at the University of California, Berkeley.

*The West Bay Rapid Transit Authority for San Mateo County and the Marin County Transit District are established by the legislature.*

1965

*The San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission is established by the legislature.*

ABAG supports the tax increase proposed for the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District and adopts a policy favoring air pollution control devices for all motor vehicles.

ABAG requests all Bay Area cities and counties to adopt the 1964 Uniform Building Code.

ABAG supports Alameda County's electronic information retrieval system for arrest warrants (PIN) and expresses interest in areawide law enforcement problems and programs.

ABAG passes a resolution requesting that the Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Public Health Service make a study to determine the most feasible method of waste disposal that would maintain adequate water quality for the San Francisco Bay system.

Councilman Newell Case (Walnut Creek) and Supervisor Louis Chess (San Mateo County) serve as President and Vice President of ABAG.

ABAG's planning program is reorganized to comply with the needs of the Bay Area Transportation Study.

Refuse Disposal Needs Study is published; it estimates that by the year 2000 the Bay Area will produce enough solid waste to cover a 50 square mile area to a depth of 20 feet.

The General Assembly approves the Special District Consolidation Report suggesting ABAG support the activities of County Local Agency Formation Commissions and conduct continuing studies of special district problems and solutions.

1966

ABAG's Goals and Organization Committee is established to consider Bay Area problems and ABAG's priorities and to recommend appropriate changes in ABAG's structure. The Committee identifies eight problem areas requiring top priority: solid waste disposal, water quality control, regional transportation, Bay conservation and development, air pollution, comprehensive regional planning, open space and parks, and airport planning. The GO Committee's recommendation that a multi-functional, limited purpose, home-rule agency be established by the Legislature is approved by the General Assembly.

The General Fund Budget for 1965-66 is \$52,138.

Supervisor Louis Chess (San Mateo County) is elected President. Councilman Robert Miller (San Jose), serves as Vice President following the resignation of Vice Mayor Charles Allen (Sonoma) in April.



ABAG establishes cooperating memberships for special districts and out-of-area jurisdictions.

ABAG cooperates with Santa Clara and Contra Costa Counties in their countywide transportation studies.

An Executive Committee meeting is filmed by Encyclopedia Britannica for inclusion in a movie on local government in regional affairs.

ABAG sponsors a luncheon for new State legislators on tour of Northern California.

ABAG is asked to review Bay Area Projects to be funded under the 1964 State Park Bond Act.

Preliminary Regional Plan is published and the preliminary design concept for a Regional Information System is completed.

1967 ABAG publishes a survey of Regional Governmental Agencies and Programs in the Bay Area prepared for the Goals and Organization Committee by Public Administration Service.

Other studies completed are: Inventory of Parks and Open Space of San Francisco Bay Region, Population and Labor Force Projections and the Bay Shoreline Study.

*AB 50 and SB 26 are introduced as skeleton bills for legislative hearings on ABAG's Regional Home Rule Proposal. The Legislature establishes a Joint Committee on Bay Area Regional Organization (BARO).*

ABAG receives the "1967 Urban Development Governmental Meritorious Award" from HUD for intergovernmental cooperation in urban development.

ABAG votes to sponsor a four-county (Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, and San Mateo) Community Shelter Planning Program.

Councilman Robert Miller (San Jose) and Supervisor James Kenny (Contra Costa County) serve as President and Vice President for the Association.

1968 Supervisor James Kenny (Contra Costa County) and Mayor Jack Maltester (San Leandro) serve as President and Vice President and J. Julien Baget becomes ABAG's Executive Director.

Regional Geology is published. It points out that valuable mineral resources need protection from residential development. One-tenth of the country's mercury comes from the Bay Area. Geologic data is a basic requirement for land use planning.



The Program Design for the four-county Community Shelter Plan is completed.

ABAG endorses the principle of the continuation, without interruption, of a control mechanism for Bay development and fill pending the establishment of a permanent authority.

ABAG establishes a Regional Airport Commission and enters into negotiations with the three major airports to develop a comprehensive airport planning program.

ABAG's Property Tax Relief Committee and a Technical Advisory Group are formed to investigate commuter taxes and the tax structure.

Thomas N. Truax, ABAG Assistant Administrator is convicted of embezzling \$511,000 of ABAG's funds, most of which is later recovered.

1969

*The Bay Conservation and Development Commission is given permanent status by the legislature.*

*The State's Bay-Delta Water Quality Study costing \$3 million is completed.*

Mayor Jack Maltester (San Leandro) and Supervisor Ignazio Vella (Sonoma County) serve as ABAG's President and Vice President. The General Assembly adopts a total budget of \$1,375,925 for 1969-70.

ABAG and the State Business and Transportation Agency sign an agreement creating the Regional Transportation Planning Committee. Because the Legislature did not continue the BATS Commission, this Committee is responsible for continuing transportation planning in the Bay Area. Counties are assessed \$75,000 as the local share in funding this program.

ABAG passes a resolution urging the Federal Government to complete land acquisition of Point Reyes National Seashore.

In cooperation with the California Council on Criminal Justice, ABAG establishes a Regional Criminal Justice Advisory Board and prepares a program design for regional planning in criminal justice and law enforcement.

*ABAG supports legislation (AB 1846) introduced by Assemblyman William Bagley to establish a Regional Home Rule Agency for the Bay Area. The bill is sent to interim study.*

The Regional Airport Systems Study Committee directs ABAG's activities in airport planning in cooperation with BASAR, a joint powers agency of the three major airports.

ABAG requests the Corps of Engineers to undertake the necessary tests and study the effects of oil spills in San Francisco Bay.



82 cities and 8 counties are members of ABAG.

Agricultural Resources Study by ABAG points out that 13,000 acres of Bay Area agricultural land are converted to urban uses each year.

ABAG's Regional Open Space Element details the 15% deficiency of public open space lands in the Bay Area.

*People for Open Space complete an economic feasibility study of open space acquisition using ABAG's Open Space Plan. The study is funded by the Ford Foundation.*

Regional Housing Study emphasizes the need for over a million new housing units by 1990 if the Bay Area's population grows as projected.

The Criminal Justice Information and Communications Study and the first two phases of the four-county Community Shelter Plan are completed.

1970 Regional Plan 1970-1990, the Bay Area's first comprehensive regional plan, is approved by an overwhelming vote of the General Assembly on July 30.

Supervisor Ignazio Vella (Sonoma County) and Mayor Ronald James (San Jose) are elected to two years terms as President and Vice President. New Bylaw amendment provides that all supervisors, mayors and councilmen of member jurisdictions may vote for ABAG's officers.

A work program for a Bay Region Planning Information Support Center is completed.

*The Legislature establishes the Metropolitan Transportation Commission for the Bay Area.*

ABAG's Ocean Coastline Study points out the need for a coastline plan. 50% of the region's coastal zone is land that could be developed.

The first phase of the Water, Sewerage & Drainage Plan is completed. Response Analysis of the Preliminary plan is published.

A summary of Phase I of ABAG's Airport Systems Study predicts a growth in Bay Area air passengers from 20 million in 1970 to 83 million in 1985.

ABAG cooperates with the Institute for Local Self Government in a manpower development pilot project and a manpower requirements survey of local governments.

The Criminal Justice Planning program is expanded to provide technical and planning assistance to area Model City Projects.



Seven representatives of ABAG are appointed as advisors to Joint Committee on Seismic Safety, Senator Alfred Alquist, Chairman.

ABAG, as the areawide clearinghouse for Federal grant applications, reviews 180 projects totalling \$419 million and \$208 million in grant requests.

1971 HUD certifies ABAG as the Bay Area's areawide planning organization for 1971.

ABAG's 1971-72 budget of \$1,287,000, approved by the General Assembly, includes a 6.4% dues increase.

A memorandum of understanding is executed between ABAG and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to delegate planning responsibilities between the two agencies.

ABAG reviews a proposed project to construct a new Antioch bridge and suggests a multi-modal corridor study between the Bay Area and Sacramento.

In a report, Development Regulations and Housing Costs, ABAG recommends adoption by cities and counties of a single development ordinance to unify zoning, subdivision and planned unit development standards.

Regional Organization for Shipping and the Environment (ROSE), a Task Force formed by ABAG and the Marine Exchange, prepares a report on requirements for ships' safety and for the establishment of vessel traffic regulation following a collision and oil spill in the Bay.

The ABAG Executive Committee recommends that the United States Coast Guard find that the environmental impact report for the Southern Crossing bridge is not adequate. Voters later oppose the bridge's construction in a five county election.

*AB 1057 by Assemblyman John Knox of Richmond, to create a Bay Area Conservation and Development Agency, fails by two votes in the State Senate.*

ABAG's Criminal Justice Planning Program produces a "how to" book for cities and counties on police citation and release on-own-recognition (OR) programs.

Joint efforts of ABAG and MTC over 9-month period gains two-thirds funding for mass transit grants for Bay Area transit agencies from the federal Urban Mass Transportation Administration.

*The Legislature establishes the Bay Area Sewage Service Agency (BASSA).*

ABAG's summary of the region's economy as it developed between 1960 and 1970 shows an increase in employment of 42%.



ABAG reviews 145 projects totalling \$147 million and \$69 million in grant requests.

1972

ABAG's General Assembly Symposium held on population growth and the Bay Area's future kicks off a long-range program to develop an urban growth policy for the Bay Area.

Councilman Donald F. Dillon, (Fremont) and Supervisor Warren N. Boggess, (Contra Costa County) become ABAG's President and Vice President. The General Assembly adopts a total budget of \$1,287,500 for 1972-73.

*The National League of Cities adopts the position that councils of governments such as ABAG should receive financial assistance from both state and federal governments, should serve as the umbrella organization for all agencies established for regional purposes, and should have the power to appoint new advisory regional agencies as needed.*

A report, New Communities in the Bay Area, is released by ABAG's Regional Planning Committee. Its recommendations include the suggestion that ABAG should survey and study the problems and opportunities of the 33 developing communities in the Bay Area and concentrate on the physical and economic growth and social conditions in existing communities.

ABAG endorses a 3-year Bay Delta pilot project to use composted organic solid wastes to build up the levees of agricultural islands in the Delta.

ABAG approves a regional housing planning process and establishes a Housing Task Force to develop a housing plan and guidelines for HUD to use in distributing housing funds in the Bay Area.

ABAG adopts a Regional Open Space Plan which commits ABAG to the boldest open space system planned for any metropolitan area in the world, with a target of 3.4 million acres of open space in the Bay Area.

Sonoma County withdraws from ABAG membership. 85 cities and seven counties are ABAG members.

East Bay Regional Park District works with ABAG to develop the district's 20-year master plan and a 9-county master park and recreation plan.

ABAG now reviews environmental impact statements for federal and state funded projects and federal development projects.

ABAG's General Assembly approves an urban growth guide of 5.5 million people by 1980 which represents an annual growth rate of 1.7 percent each year.

A multi-disciplinary study sponsored by USGS/HUD/ and ABAG begins to determine whether earth science information is being used in land use planning.

*Proposition 20 passes in California, establishing the Coastal Zone Conservation Commission for the State. The commission is developing a plan for the coastline for presentation to the State legislature in 1976. ABAG is represented on the two regional commissions that operate in the Bay Area.*

The Regional Airport System Plan is adopted, making the Bay Area the first region in California with an aviation element as part of its regional plan.

ABAG reviews 583 projects totalling \$551 million and \$351 million in grant requests.

1973 Regional Citizens Forum is established by action of a convention attended by 500 citizens.

Zoning and Growth, an ABAG issue paper concludes that Bay Area zoning, as presently used, does not support the policies and intentions of most local general plans.

The general fund budget for 1973-74 is \$1.6 million.

As part of the joint program by ABAG and East Bay Regional Park District, minority community leaders used a planning game to determine minority recreation demand. It is the first time gaming is used in regional planning in the Bay Area.

A study prepared for ABAG by the Center for the Continuing Study of the California Economy reveals that local government expenditures, increasing at a rate of 11% per year, has doubled between 1962-1970. Another ABAG study predicts that federal help to local governments will be considerably less than that received during the 1960's.

ABAG applies to the National Endowment for the Arts for a maximum grant of over a million dollars to double the arts budgets of participating cities and counties and to become the first council of governments to initiate a regional arts program.

*Assemblyman John Knox's AB 2040, to establish a Bay Area Regional Planning Agency, passes the Assembly.*

ABAG's Bay Region Information Support Center (BRISC) provides numerous data services for member cities, counties and other regional agencies.

Three volumes by ABAG titled How to Implement Open Space Plans, show that local cities and counties have more powers to control growth, curb urban sprawl and regulate land than is generally thought.

The California Council on Criminal Justice (CCCJ) okays \$40,000 for ABAG's Criminal Justice Planning Program.



Approval of the Regional Ocean Coastline Plan by ABAG makes the Bay Area the first region in California to adopt a coastal plan as part of its comprehensive general plan.

*The legislature adopts AB 24 by Assemblyman Carlos Bee providing for a nine-member directly elected BART Board of Directors.*

A regional car-pool experiment called RIDES is established through the cooperation of ABAG and various governmental and commercial organizations and agencies in an attempt to combat the energy crisis.

The Office of Management and the Budget makes key revisions in the A-95 circular requiring memorandums of agreement between ABAG and any other regional agency receiving federal funds for area-wide planning.

ABAG's new Executive Director is Revan A. F. Tranter, former deputy executive director of Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

ABAG reviews 426 projects totalling \$301 million and \$185 million in grant requests.

1974

Supervisor Warren Boggess (Contra Costa County) and Councilman Lenard Grote (Pleasant Hill) become ABAG's President and Vice President. They were elected to two-year terms in the first contested election in ABAG history. ABAG's 1974-75 budget is \$1.6 million.

A report, Financing Open Space, published by ABAG examines potential sources of financing and acquisition plans that would implement part of ABAG's Regional Open Space Plan. The report also analyzes frequently overlooked costs of operating and maintaining open space lands.

ABAG's Executive Committee creates the Citizen Alliance Program, which makes staff assistance available to citizen groups for conferences, seminars and communication tools on issues of regional significance.

The Regional Ocean Coastline Plan becomes a basis for coastal planning in San Francisco, Marin and Sonoma Counties under an agreement between ABAG and the North Central Coastal Commission. ABAG receives an award from the American Institute of Planners for the plan.

ABAG and the Bay Area Sewage Services Agency sign an agreement defining the roles of each agency in comprehensive planning and water quality management.

A system of review panels to assess development proposals with a potentially significant impact on the region is created. The review panels are set up to analyze proposals that potentially conflict with ABAG's adopted regional policies. The first such proposal to be reviewed is the Las Positas "new town" north of Livermore.

ABAG begins developing a regional information system on a variety of natural and man-made hazards such as earthquakes, floods, and oil spills. ABAG also begins a land capability study to show how natural hazards such as flood plains and earthquake faults and natural resources such as water and minerals can be considered in making land use decisions.

*Assemblyman John Knox's bill (AB 2040) to merge ABAG with MTC, BASSA, BCDC and BAAPCD is defeated in the Senate Local Government Committee despite strong endorsement by local governments throughout the Bay Area.*

The Regional Housing Task Force completes the Regional Housing Plan - Phase I, which will assist local governments in applying for federal funds under the 1974 community development legislation. The plan recommends a "fair share" allocating system for distributing the region's available housing subsidies and ensuring the provisions of low- and moderate-income housing in the Bay Area.

ABAG and the Bay Area Comprehensive Health Planning Council continue joint planning with projects in emergency medical services and in forecasts of health service needs.

ABAG's General Assembly adopts an economic policy resolution that identifies a minimum level of economic development for the Bay Area, and establishes the principle that public programs must be evaluated for their contribution to solving social and economic problems as well as for their natural resource aspects. ABAG's city-centered growth management policies are honored by an award from the Bay Area Council for "outstanding environmental enhancement."

ABAG reviews 665 projects totalling \$679 million and \$472 million in grant requests.

1975 ABAG's General Assembly reviewed land use issues with workshops attended by 300 people on "Land Use Laws: 1975's Bandwagon." The year's budget is \$2,147,000.

*Assemblyman John Knox introduces a bill (AB 625) merging ABAG with the Bay Area Sewage Services Agency and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission. The bill is killed on the Senate floor when the Senate refuses to adopt a conference committee report.*

ABAG's Executive Board, acting after a lengthy review by the Regional Planning Committee, opposes the development of a proposed new town in the Las Positas Valley north of Livermore in Alameda County. The board concludes that the proposal is premature and in conflict with regional policies on environmental quality, balanced urban development and cooperative government action. The system used to review the proposed new town and other proposals of regional significance wins an award from the American Society for Public Administration.



ABAG publishes CONSERVE--Toward Community Strategies for Conserving the Region's Housing Stock, which describes realistic ways for local governments to preserve existing neighborhoods. The report is re-printed by HUD for national distribution.

ABAG is designated by the State Water Resources Control Board to receive a \$4.3 million Environmental Protection Agency grant for planning under s. 208 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. The two-year program will bring together the separate and often conflicting mandates of single-purpose regional agencies in air and water and includes solid waste considerations.

ABAG pioneers the development of environmental assessment procedures that will analyze environmental effects of proposed ABAG policy actions at an early stage in policy development, rather than after the policies are completed.

ABAG begins a project to develop county-level management and regional coordination of emergency medical services such as ambulances, hospitals and public safety agencies.

ABAG refines the Open Space Element--now called the Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. This work strengthens the ability of local governments to make decisions about environmentally sensitive lands.

The report of the land capability analysis study published by ABAG describes an innovative method for using earth science information to identify development costs, strengthening local development decisions.

The State and regional coastal commissions complete a plan for the California coast, and recommend the plan be approved by the legislature. The plan recommends continuation of the system of regional commissions, with the Bay Area having two such commissions.

ABAG and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission complete a major policy study for the San Mateo Coast Corridor. The report is the first in a series of evaluations leading to integrated land use, development and transportation policies. The study is part of the extensive joint program between ABAG and MTC, without which the Bay Area could not receive its substantial funds for transportation projects.

ABAG finds in its Federal Grants Study that the Bay Area "roughly" gets its share of Federal funding in major grant and loan programs.

ABAG reviews 1,010 projects totalling \$741 million and \$576 million in grant requests.



1976

A 43-member Environmental Management Task Force is formed to prepare a plan to meet Federal clean air and water standards. The task force adopts a \$4.3 million work program for the two-year project.

More than 50 experts and 400 people participate in ABAG's General Assembly--"On Shaky Ground." The delegates unanimously direct the agency to devote attention to earthquake preparedness.

Pleasant Hill Councilman Lenard E. Grote is elected ABAG's President and Santa Clara County Supervisor Rod Diridon becomes Vice President. The budget for 1976-77 is \$4.2 million.

ABAG identifies effects on San Francisco of a development proposal for San Bruno Mountain in San Mateo County, and recommends ways for San Mateo and San Francisco to reduce the harmful consequences of the development. San Mateo supervisors decline to allow the development to proceed.

ABAG automates its A-95 project review notification system because of the number of grant applications and the number of programs requiring reviews.

*Assemblyman John Knox and Senator Alfred Alquist introduce AB 3041 merging ABAG and the Bay Area Sewage Services Agency. Later, Senator Milton Marks joins Knox and Alquist in amending the bill to abolish BASSA effective January 1, 1977.*

The Executive Board concludes a review of the revised Livermore general plan, building on the recommendations of the 1974 action on the proposed Las Positas new town proposal.

ABAG's Citizen Alliance Program wins an award for innovative community affairs programs from the San Francisco Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

The second ABAG-MTC corridor study is begun in Santa Clara County. The 18- to 21-month study will examine transportation and development alternatives for the county and how they would affect highways, transit and related urban development projects for water, jobs and housing in the next few years.

The Bay Area receives a \$1 million emergency medical services grant through ABAG. The grant is for completion of a basic life support system, which means that an ambulance can reach a victim within 10 minutes in an urban area and within 30 minutes in rural parts of the region.

*The legislature approves bills providing for a permanent State coastal commission, with regional commissions for a two-year period. Governor Brown signs the bills into law.*



ABAG approves a sharing plan for Federal housing subsidies, which can be used by HUD as a basis for distributing available funds.

Colma's town council votes to join ABAG--becoming the 87th Bay Area city to join and giving ABAG the highest number of members in its 15-year history.

*Assemblyman Victor Calvo's bill (AB 1331) is signed, providing for proportional population representation on the Bay Area Pollution District Board of Directors.*



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